(vii) The Public Service Broadcasting Trust has been entrusted with the task of making a film on piracy.

Expansion of DD network in NER

1844. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Doordarshan plans to expand network in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such a project is also proposed to be launched in the backward tribal areas of Orissa and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan's network in the North-East region presently includes, 12 studio centres and 134 transmitters (24 HPTs, 38 LPTs, 72 VLPTs) which are functioning in the region. Satellite uplinks are also available at all the capital stations. In addition, an LPT has been installed at Satrasal in Assam and another is being installed in Ambassa in Tripura.

(c) Doordarshan presently has 2 studios and 61 transmitters (5 HPTs, 42 LPTs, 14 VLPTs) functioning in the tribal districts of Orissa. Another LPT has also been set up at Bahalda in the tribal districts of Mayurbhanj. TV coverage in the uncovered areas of the country is now envisaged to be provided through satellite transmission in Ku-Band. Ku-Band signals can be received anywhere in the country, except Andaman & Nicobar Islands, through a small sized dish receive system. These signals can also be received in Orissa.

Uplinking system to T.V. channels

1845. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to switch off uplinking system to a number of T.V. channels;

(b) of so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of these channels thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has terminated the teleport licence of M/s. Raj Television Network Ltd. on 19.11.2004 as it had uplinked two TV channels namely "VISSA TV" and "RAJ MUSIC" without any permission.

(c) M/s. Raj Television Network Ltd. has informed the Ministry that they have started uplinked of "RAJ TV" and "RAJ DIGITAL PLUS" channels from overseas for the time being. M/s. Raj Television Network Ltd. has filed a petition before Madras High Court challenging this Ministry's order dated 19.11.2004.

FM Radio Stations in Private Sector

1846. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has drawn up an ambitious road map to set up 400 FM radio stations in the private sector throughout the country;

(b) if so, the locations and objectives thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions of the agreement signed between the private parties and Government in this regard; and

(d) the estimated revenue income from these FM radio stations?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) About 400 stations have been identified, which are envisaged to be utilized for expansion of private FM radio in Phase-II.

(b) The locations for the expansion of FM radio in Phase-II are yet to be finalized. In the year 1999, the Government had allowed the setting up of private FM radio stations at 40 locations (Phase-I) with the following main objectives; (i) Expansion of FM network; (ii) Radio programmes with superior quality of fidelity and reception and generation of programmes with local content and relevance; (iii) Fillip to broadcasting and encouragement of new talent; (iv) Generation of employment and (v) Generation of revenue for the Government.